



BOB RILEY  
Governor

# Alabama Medicaid Agency

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CAROL A. HERRMANN, MPH  
Commissioner

January 20, 2006

## PROVIDER NOTICE 06-01

TO: Medicaid Hospice Providers

SUBJECT: Medicaid Approval for Hospice Care

Effective February 1, 2006, all hospice providers will be subject to a 100 percent review of medical records containing documentation of admission or recertification for the hospice program, including hospice stays of six months or more.

Hospice providers will no longer have the capability to submit dates of service to the LTC file for hospice admission or recertification. The permanent medical record, maintained by the hospice provider for each patient, must contain documentation which supports eligibility for the Medicaid Hospice benefit based upon the medical criteria found in the Alabama Medicaid Agency Administrative Code Rule 560-X-51-.04. Pediatric cases and other diagnoses not found in the Administrative Code will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Hospice admissions or recertifications not submitted through the LTC notification software by January 31, 2006, should be forwarded to the LTC Admissions/Records Unit with the medical records documenting the need for hospice care.

Additional information concerning this policy change is contained in the enclosures which accompany this provider notice. You may contact Ms. Nancy Headley at (334)242-5684 or Ms. Wanda Davis (334)242-5018 of my staff for additional information.

Carol A. Herrmann-Steckel, Commissioner

Enclosures

### Distribution List:

Alabama Hospice Association  
Alabama Medicaid Agency Staff  
Alabama State Medical Association  
Electronic Data Systems

Alabama Hospital Association  
Alabama Nursing Home Association  
Medical Association of the State of Alabama

(Over)

REMINDER: All Medicaid recipients are required to present their Medicaid eligibility card and proper identification to a provider of medical services for verification of eligibility when seeking treatment or service under the Medicaid program.

AVRS-1-800-727-7848

MEDICAID FRAUD HOT LINE – 1-866-452-4930